Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 197365 ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 PA-01 SS-15 NSCE-00 /044 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:JACOON:DE APPROVED BY NEA/PAB:JACOON AID/AA/ASIA - MADLER

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O 042051Z AUG 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE

FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED AUGUST 4 FOR REUTERS' STORY ON SUSPENSION OF AID TO PAKISTAN.

NO QUESTIONS WERE ASKED AT NOON BRIEFING BUT THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IS PROVIDED FOR YOUR USE IF NECESSARY.

Q. IS THE US CUTTING OFF ECONOMIC AID TO PAKISTAN BECAUSE OF THE NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT ISSUE?

- A. --NO, WE ARE NOT CUTTING OFF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE.
- -- AID PROVIDED UNDER EXISTING AGREEMENTS IS CONTINUING (AID PROJECTS, PL 480, LOCAL CURRENCY PROGRAMS).
- -- FOR SOME TIME WE HAVE NOT SIGNED NEW AID AGREEMENTS, AS THE PROGRAM HAS BEEN UNDER REVIEW. THIS REVIEW OBVIOUSLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IS NOT PROMPTED BY ANY RECENT DEVELOPMENT.

Q. DOES THE NUCLEAR REPROCESSING QUESTION LIE BEHIND OUR UNDERTAKING THIS REVIEW?

A. --THIS IS ONE OF THE REASONS. WE ALSO WANTED TO REVIEW CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY CONSIDERATIONS WITH THE

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GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, THE PRESS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIED Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE197365
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JACOON: DE

Drafter: JACOON:DE Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D780319-1087

Format: TEL From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780896/aaaadcyx.tel Line Count: 63

Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 86e3356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Office: ORIGIN NEA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005 **Review Event:**

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1832281 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

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TAGS: SOPN, EAID, PK, US To: ISLAMABAD PARIS

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/86e3356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released **US Department of State** EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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